

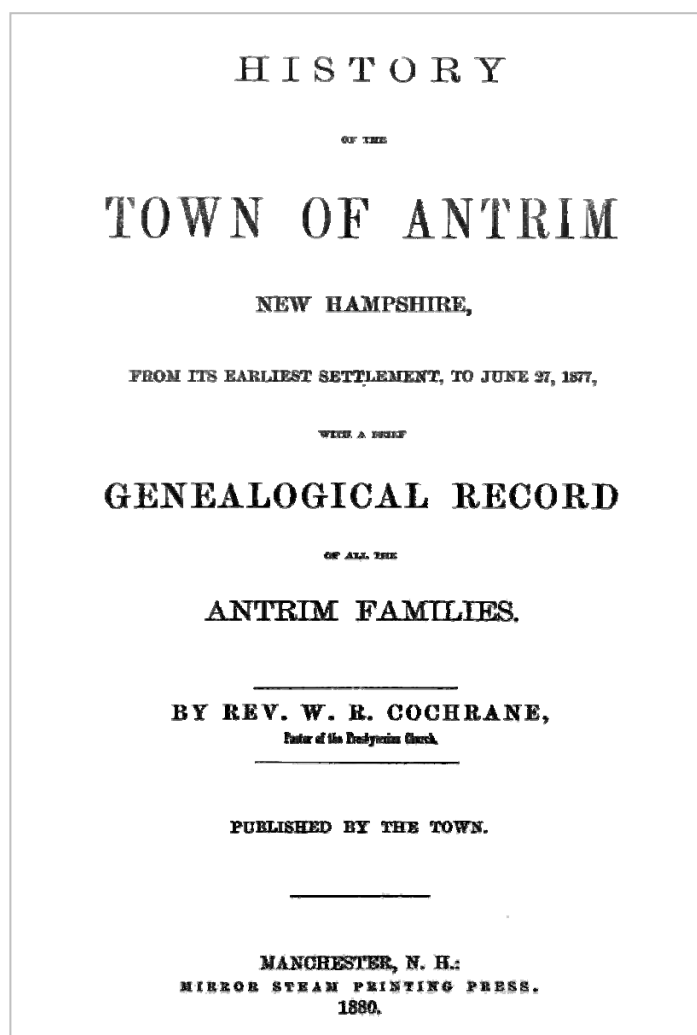
# История города Антрим

Уоррен Р. Кохрэн

History of the town of Antrim, New Hampshire, from its earliest settlement to June 27, 1877, with a brief genealogical record of all the Antrim families.

Cochrane, W. R. (Warren Robert).

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Манчестер

1880

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Перевод на русский язык и оформление

2016

М. Теппоне,

"Истина сделает вас свободными"

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... Вслед за этой суровой и продолжительной зимой пришел знаменитый "черный день" 19 мая 1780 года. Я беру на себя смелость изложить некоторые факты того времени, попавшиеся мне на глаза. До этого времени, в течение нескольких дней воздух был наполнен испарениями и дымом, как при лесных пожарах; солнце и луна были мрачными и красными. Ранним утром 19 мая погода была пасмурной, прохладной и дождливой, а в некоторых местах слышался гром, и сверкала молния {57}.

Following this severe and long winter came the celebrated "Dark Day," May 19, 1780. I take the liberty to copy such statements about it as have fallen under my eye. For several days previous the air was full of smoky vapors, as if fires had been burning in the woods, the sun and moon appearing red and somewhat obscured. The early morning of May 19 was cloudy and showery and cool, with some thunder and lightning.

Но около десяти часов утра, когда работники были заняты в своих цехах и на мельницах, женщины пряли или ткали, а фермеры спешили успеть завершить необходимые весенние работы на полях, начало темнеть. Дикие птицы что-то прокричали и полетели в свои гнезда, - куры пошли на свои насесты, - домашний скот возвращался в загоны, издавая странные звуки, овцы блеяли и испуганно ютились под забором, почки и маленькие листья деревьев были окрашены в цвет индиго, малиновки и синие птицы залетели в дома, как если бы они искали защиты человека, дождь, который вскоре последовал, принес осадки, напоминающее сгоревшую растительность, и образуя пену, с запахом гари, покрывшую всю поверхность реки Мерримак, местами толщиной до полу-фута, и в этой странной темноте, усиливающейся до полудня, чтобы пообедать, людям пришлось зажечь свечи!

But {57} about ten o'clock, when the artisans were busy in the shop and mill, the women spinning and weaving, and the farmers hurrying with their spring work in the field, it began to grow dark. The wild birds screamed and flew to their nests, - the hens went to their roosts, - the cattle came up, uttering strange cries, to their stalls, - the sheep, bleating woefully, huddled under the fences, - the buds and small leaves on the trees were colored almost to an indigo blue, - robins and blue-birds flew into the houses as if they sought the protection of man, - the rain that soon followed was full of a substance like burnt vegetable matter, forming a scum, with smell of soot, over everything, collecting on the Merrimack river here and there to the depth of half a foot, - and this strange darkness increased until by noon people had to light candles to eat their dinners by!

Огни свечей были замечены в каждом окне, а на улице, чтобы осветить себе дорогу, люди несли факелы, при этом все вокруг предстало в ином цвете. Все, что при солнечном свете имело другой цвет, теперь, в результате тьмы и блеска факелов, изленилось до неузнаваемости. Многие верили в наступление конца света, мужчины

для молитвы склонились на колени там, где в это время находились, многие побежали к своим соседям, чтобы признаться в грехах и попросить прощения; в городах множество людей направилось в молитвенные дома, где были благочестивые пожилые служители, желая покаяться и умоляя о ходатайстве за них перед Богом; и повсеместно в этот день можно было наблюдать удивление и тревогу о неосторожных мыслях и о своих грехах перед Создателем.

Lights were seen in every window, and, out-of-doors, people carried torches to light their steps. Everything took a different color from what it had by sunlight, and consequently the strange reflections of the torch-lights were in keeping with the marvelous and changed appearance of everything. Hosts of people believed the end of the world had begun to come; men dropped on their knees to pray in the field; many ran to their neighbors to confess wrongs and ask forgiveness; multitudes rushed into the meeting-houses in towns where they had such, where pious and aged ministers, pleading repentance, interceded with God in their behalf; and everywhere throughout this day of wonder and alarm, the once careless thought of their sins and of their Maker!

В это время проходила сессия законодательного собрания штата Коннектикут, и, когда наступающая темнота стала настолько кромешной, что, не смотря на полдень, было невозможно различать друг друга, большинство из собравшихся были настолько встревожены, что решили прекратить заседания. Но в этот момент, г-н Дэвенпорт (Davenport) встал и сказал: -

Господин спикер, это либо судный день или нет. Если это не судный день, то нет никакой необходимости откладывать заседание. Если это судный день, то я хочу быть найденным при исполнении своего долга. Я попрошу принести сечи, и мы продолжим наше обсуждение.

At this time the legislature of Connecticut was in session, and when the growing darkness became so deep that at mid-day they could not see each other, most of them were so alarmed as to be unfit for service. At this juncture Mr. Davenport arose and said: -

Mr. Speaker, it is either the day of Judgment or it is not. If it is not, there is no need of adjourning. If it is, I desire to be found doing my duty. I move that candles be brought, and that we proceed to business.

Тьма усиливалась в течение всего дня, и ко времени захода солнца было настолько темно, что стало невозможно различить какие-либо предметы. С волнением и трепетом люди ожидали полной луны, которая должна была появиться в девять часов вечера, и даже маленькие дети с напряженными глазами сидели, молча наблюдая за появлением ее прекрасных лучей. Но они были разочарованы, тьма не подалась влиянию луны. В эту ночь возносились самые искренние молитвы, произносимые, когда либо у семейных {58} алтарей города Антрим. Дети никогда ранее не получали более нежных материнских благословений, которыми их матери напутствовали в эту ночь.

The darkness somewhat increased all day, and before time of sunset was so intense that no object whatever could be distinguished. Anxiously and tremblingly people waited for the full moon to rise at nine o'clock, and even little children with strained eyes sat silently watching for its beautiful beams to appear. But they were disappointed, the darkness being unaffected by the moon. The most feeling prayers ever prayed in {58} Antrim were at the family altars that night.

По большей части дети крепко спали, но их родители, в основном, просидели всю ночь, чтобы подождать и посмотреть, поднимется ли славное солнце вновь. Никогда еще рассвет не был столь желанным и ожидаемым, чем утро 20 мая, и на земле еще не было столь много благодарных сердец, и даже легкомысленные люди прославляли Бога!

Children never had more tender blessing than these mothers gave them that night. They slept soundly for the most part, but the parents chiefly sat up all night to wait and see if the glorious sun would rise again. Never dawned a lovelier morning than that 20th of May I Never were hearts more thankful on the earth I Even thoughtless people praised God !

Это событие настолько глубоко тронуло все население, пережившее ужасную тьму, что на следующем заседании, состоявшемся в марте (9 марта 1781), город проголосовал объявить 19 мая днем поста и молитвы {59}.

So much were the whole population affected by this event, that, at the succeeding March meeting, the town voted, March 9, 1781, to keep the next 19th of May as a day of fasting and prayer {59}.

HISTORY  
OF THE  
TOWN OF ANTRIM  
NEW HAMPSHIRE,  
FROM ITS EARLIEST SETTLEMENT, TO JUNE 27, 1877,  
WITH A BRIEF  
GENEALOGICAL RECORD  
OF ALL THE  
ANTRIM FAMILIES.

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BY REV. W. R. COCHRANE,  
Pastor of the Presbyterian Church.

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PUBLISHED BY THE TOWN.

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MANCHESTER, N. H.:  
MIRROR STEAM PRINTING PRESS.  
1880.

place for six weeks. For most of the winter snow was five feet deep on a level. The only communication was by means of snow-shoes. Roads were out of the question. Boston harbor was frozen hard enough for a sleigh-ride on it, according to report. People could not go to mill, and, after their stock of meal was used up, they lived for weeks on boiled corn and various broths. Wood was drawn on hand-sleds most of the winter, it being impossible to move a team. It is related that one lad and his little sister, their father being in the army, drew wood in this way for the family all winter. Having no boots, they sewed rags round their feet and saturated them with neat s-foot oil to keep from freezing, and then sallied forth into the woods. Old stockings, thus saturated, were called proof against frost. As evidence that the reports of cold and snow were not greatly exaggerated, the Journal of the New Hampshire Legislature, March 8, 1780, contains a "Resolve to enable the Court of Common Pleas in the County of Hillsborough to take up and finish sundry matters pending at said Court at their next term, the last term being lost by reason of the stormy weather." In some of these deep snows and blows ordinary log houses were entirely covered out of sight. In one place in New Hampshire, nearly a month after a great storm, a flock of one hundred sheep were dug out of a snow-bank that was sixteen feet deep above their backs, most of them being dead, the few alive having subsisted by eating the wool off the dead!

In such a winter the privation and solitude of these few scattered settlers must have been oppressive. It was a rare thing to see a neighbor's face. Each family was shut up by itself. Even the larger places, like Boston and Portsmouth, were thoroughly blockaded with snow. In those families where the husband and father was in the army, the long winter must have been desolate in the extreme! With all our winter comforts and social enjoyments, we are in no condition to appreciate what was endured by the founders of our institutions.

Following this severe and long winter came the celebrated "Dark Day," May 19, 1780. I take the liberty to copy such statements about it as have fallen under my eye. For several days previous the air was full of smoky vapors, as if fires had been burning in the woods, the sun and moon appearing red and somewhat obscured. The early morning of May 19 was cloudy and showery and cool, with some thunder and lightning. But

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The darkness was greatest in northern Massachusetts and southern New Hampshire. It covered New England more or less, was noticed on the Hudson river, but was not thought of farther south and west. As to causes and explanations of this event, a high authority says:—

The Dark Day in North America was one of those wonderful phenomena of nature which will always be read of with interest, but which philosophy is at a loss to explain.

The year 1781 finds the people in much financial distress. Paper had gone so low that it required seventy-five dollars of it to purchase one dollar of silver. In the border towns like Antrim, the people were distressed to pay their taxes. Tuesday, March 13, 1781, they "Voted Esqr. Duncan go to meet a Comettee from Hancock [and] Dearing and Draw a Demonstration," and "Voted James Aiken and Thomas Stuart be a Commettee to give Capt. alcock instruction." So great were the war expenses, and so poor were the people, that even an article in the warrant to call a minister was "adjourned till the town Receive instruction from Coart." And yet in their great distress they "Voted Mrs. Mary Dickey be freed of Reats," and that "Chopt Down wood Shall pay a tax equal to wild Land and no more." They would not tax the widow of the dead soldier, nor would they tax the scanty beginnings and improvements of soldiers then at the front. This financial pressure explains the action of the town at a subsequent meeting. Friday, June 1, 1781. This was convened to "Chuse a man to Send to Concord to the Convention for forming a Plan of Government," and "To See if the town will agree upon aney method to provide their Supply of Beef for the army." Antrim then had "fifty families or more," as the order for election sent out by the assembly read as fol-